



2006 Kentucky HOSA Leadership Conference

“Loving the Profession, Living the Dream”



More than 800 of the state’s 3,200 HOSA members, their advisors and health educators converged in Louisville from March 8 – 11 to participate in the annual Kentucky HOSA Leadership Conference.

“HOSA is committed to building a pipeline of future health care professionals. This is evident in our student's goals, their excitement about health care careers and the 834 registered attendees in this year’s state conference,” says KY State HOSA Advisor Elizabeth Bullock. “HOSA’s continued growth just showcases the need for strong career and technical student organizations (CTSO) that are focused on future careers and leadership.”

The state event provided an opportunity for students gather in an effort to learn more about their respective health care fields through various educational symposiums, to network with other students about health care issues and to participate in 41 competitive events in five separate categories. Winners are eligible to compete at the national conference in Anaheim, California from June 21-24 .





Education Cabinet Deputy Secretary Laura E. Owens was on hand to officially welcome students to the 2006 Opening General Session of the State HOSA Conference.

"In a 10-year span between 2004 and 2014 health care and social assistance will grow by more than 30 percent and add 4.3 million new jobs to the workforce," said Owens. "You will be a part of that workforce thanks to your hard work and dedication in the classroom and to your organization. Let me thank you for who you are now and who you will become."



A newly elected set of state officers was officially installed for the 2006-07 school year. Photo: front row (l to r): Binh Tran, vice president, Louisville Central High School; Brittany Ciukaj, president, Breckinridge Co ATC; back row (l to r): Aleidra Allen, secretary, Louisville Central High School; Ashley Brumfield, parliamentarian, Breckinridge Co ATC; Emily-Kate Cardwell, historian, Ohio Co ATC.

To staff and organize a state conference requires not only the help of secondary and postsecondary instructors from all over the state, but it also takes a caring attitude. KY Tech health sciences instructors are involved in virtually every facet of the conference from chairing events to aiding their students during the competitions and everything in between. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication on the part of all instructors. Each has her own story and each gives of herself to help develop students as well as other instructors new to the whole experience.



Photo (l to r): Martin Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor and 2005 KY Tech Teacher of the Year Martha Williams and Millard ATC-Eastridge HS Health Sciences Instructor Katrina Collins. Both co-chaired the Job Seeking Skills competition.

"It's a tremendous opportunity to assist these students in developing lifetime skills and to help them increase their confidence and self esteem," says Williams. "We are encouragers for all the students and it's our responsibility to help them relax and experience their full potential.



"I feel that I go back to my classroom with a lot of good advise from other students," says Collins. "In 1985, I competed in this competition and placed 2nd, so it is near and dear to my heart. It's great to provide help running a contest because we have an impact on so many students and it also shows my students that I'm a good role model."



Photo at left (l to r): Russellville ATC Health Sciences Instructor Lee Ellen Joiner and Lee Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor and 1998 KY Tech Teacher of the Year were Co-Chairs of Creative Problem Solving.

“Joiner, a new instructor says, “I’m fortunate to be shadowing Frances Click. This is exciting. You get to look around and see future doctors, nurses and people who will be taking care of you and me. And, I feel good about the caliber of student I see.”

“HOSA is in our blood and it’s important that we take the time to nurture students so they can reach their maximum potential,” says Click. “It’s also a time for us to help instructors who are new to the system and I can tell that Lee Ellen is going to do a fabulous job.”

Photo at right (l to right): Rockcastle Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor Rhonda Childerss and Rockcastle Co. Job Quest Coordinator Mary Ann Childerss (who came to offer assistance) both agree that preparing for HOSA competition requires a lot of extra work and a tremendous amount of time.

“But, seeing the excitement from the students who are competing makes up for everything. The joy on their faces when they have accomplished their goal is what it’s all about,” says Rhonda.



Equally important are all the volunteers who help, especially those involved in running the HOSA Hospitality Room. Dean Smith, commonly referred to as “Grammy,” mother of Breckinridge Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor Debbie Gray, finished her eleventh year coordinating the hospitality room – a place where all instructors can have a moment to enjoy some great food and relax.

In addition, Lyvenia Anthony once again provided a tremendous help to Grammy during this year’s conference. Lyvenia’s daughter Patty was a former student under Debbie Gray and served as the 2003-04 HOSA State vice president. Lyvenia’s help was especially touching this year as her son-in-law, Merle Allen Lucas, had just recently passed away from cancer. He too, had been involved in vocational-technical education as a welding student at the Breckinridge Co. ATC during high school. He has been remembered as an outstanding individual in his community.

“I’m so proud of my mother,” says Gray. “She and Lyvenia both give unselfishly of themselves to provide an satisfying environment for all the instructors to enjoy. Not only can they relax, they can also benefit from some home cooked food. My mother works tirelessly baking cakes and preparing food prior to state conference and loves seeing everyone each year. But, the feelings are mutual because they look forward to seeing ‘Grammy’ too.”



(l to r):
“Grammy”
and Lyvenia



(l to r): Leslie Co. ATC health sciences student Jacob Bowling, Instructor Teresa V. Napier and student Todd Day.

“This is my eleventh year and I had no reservations about bringing this group of students to the State HOSA conference because they are all extremely well behaved and dedicated,” says Napier. “We have worked very hard to be able to get to this point in terms of fund-raisers and practicing for competitive events. My students are competing in 12 different events and its been a joy to be part of helping them to develop their future.”

“This has been a good opportunity to participate in an event in the field I want to go into in the future,” says Jacob. “Mrs. Napier is the greatest advisor and I appreciate her integrity and gift of teaching.”

“This has been a worthwhile experience for me. It’s given me the opportunity to explore the fields I love,” says Todd. “Mrs. Napier is above all the rest and she has helped me to grow intellectually.”



Photo from left to right: Amanda McHargue, Stacey McVoy, Danielle Logan, Instructor Karen Meadows, Shelley Sasser and Veronica Fore.

First state conference for students from the Corbin ATC - Wofford satellite program

“The HOSA experience was wonderful for my students,” says Meadows. “As a first year teacher, it was a joy for me to bring my students. They have been able to participate at the state level and can now relay their experiences so more students can work toward the opportunity of involving themselves in professional development, competition, meeting students from all over the state; and having the honor of representing Corbin ATC - Wofford.”



Photo (l to r): Shelby Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor Peggy Williford and health sciences senior Omar Mandeel take a moment to look over the HOSA State Conference schedule.

"I have worked with Omar for the past three years and he is an exceptional student. Omar has such a zeal for learning and his curiosity and interest are never ending," says Williford. "It is such a joy to have a student that is so eager to learn because it makes teaching an enjoyable experience. Without a doubt, Omar will have many wonderful accomplishments in the future. I can't wait to hear of his progress in the future and to be able to say 'he was one of my students.'"

"To me, HOSA is a long standing tradition of memories and learning," says Omar. "And, of course, chillin' with the coolest advisor in the world." (Omar plans to major in chemistry at the University of Louisville and go on to become a doctor.)



Photo at left: Hughes Jones – Harrodsburg ATC health sciences students Brandi Flood and Megan Beasley.

“I like being with my friends and the pressure of trying to win 1st place,” says Megan.

“I have enjoyed meeting all the new people that are interested in the same career goals as me,” says Brandi.



Photo above: Lee Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor Frances Click pins a boutonniere on her student, Michael Chambers, who served as the 2005-06 HOSA parliamentarian.



(l to r): Meade Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor Donna Lynch; Barren Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor Joni Ferguson and Corbin ATC Health Sciences Instructor Julia Rollins.

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